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JAN 1 9 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Honorable Robert Cutler
Special Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs

SUBJECT: Comparison of Steel Production in the US and USSR

1. The attached table is submitted in response to your request for a comparison of steel production in the US and the USSR, contained in your memorandum of 13 January 1958. Please note that US figures, usually expressed in net tons, have been converted to metric tons for purposes of comparison.

2. Table I, in addition to providing information on crude steel production, supplies US capacity as of 1 January for each of the years listed. Soviet production and capacity at any given time are virtually the same, whereas US capacity is often considerably greater than production.

3. If these data do not fully serve your purpose, please do not hesitate to call on us for additional information.

ROBERT AMORY, JR.

Enclosure:
Table I.

Distribution:
Orig. and 1 - Addressee
2 - DD/I
2 - AD/RR
1 - Ch/E
2 - D/M
OAD/RR:OEGuthe:LMarengo:amm/2817 (15 January 1958)

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TABLE I

Crude Steel Production and Capacity in the USA
and Crude Steel Production in the USSR

Selected Years -- 1920-1958

In thousands of metric tons.

Year	United States Capacity (January 1)	United States Production	USSR Production a/	
1920	56,500	42,800	200	
1925	62,000	46,100	1,900	
1930	66,100	41,400	5,800	
1935	71,000	34,600	12,600	
1940	74,000	60,600	18,300	
1942	80,600	78,000	7,000	
1945	86,500	72,300	12,300	USSR = 1/6 US
1950	90,500	87,800	27,300	
1951	94,600	95,500	31,400	
1952	98,500	84,500	34,500	
1953	106,600	101,100	38,100	
1954	112,900	80,000	41,400	
1955	114,000	106,800	45,300	
1956	116,500	104,500	48,600	
1957	121,000	102,800	51,100	
1958	127,500	99,700 b/	53,600 c/	USSR = 1/2 + US

a/ For many years the Soviet steel industry has operated at or very near capacity; thus production figures for the USSR are indicative of capacity.

b/ Estimate by The Iron Age.

c/ Plan.

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